

SS2: ASIAN STUDIES

2ND QUARTER

ASIA AT THE CENTER OF THE WORLD

Guidelines for Expert Group Independent Research and Study

OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE

Your goal for this quarter is to apply the tools and concepts you have learned in the First Quarter while expanding your knowledge of Asian history.

Each one of you will be assigned one civilization which you should become an “expert” on. You will also be assigned one field of study where you will “specialize” in. Together with your group, your goal is to produce the following outputs:

1. An **OPEN SOURCE TIMELINE** of key discoveries and events in your civilization must be completed by **August 29**. This will be counted as your **LONG TEST #1** (35% of CS) for the Second Quarter.
2. A **POSITION PAPER** done by group will be submitted on **September 26**. This paper will ask you to compare and contrast the achievements of your civilization with the other two. *The questions will be made available once all the timelines have been finalized.* This paper will be counted towards the **PAPERS/PROJECTS** (30% of CS) component for the Second Quarter.

In fulfilling the above goals, we seek the answers to the two core themes for this quarter.

- A. **How do civilizations develop?**
- B. **What is the extent of Chinese, Indian and Islamic influence?**

READING ASSIGNMENTS AND DATE GATHERING

Keeping up with your readings is the basic task for this quarter. A synthesis lecture in the second half of the quarter will bring all three civilizations together, but until then you will have to do your part in helping your group prepare the timeline.

CHINESE CIVILIZATION	INDIAN CIVILIZATION	ISLAMIC CIVILIZATION
125 – 147, 306 – 332, 552 – 574, 769 – 781	99 – 124, 291 – 306, 543 – 552, 757 – 769	75 – 88, 377 – 392, 522 – 528, 543 – 552

The different specialists should take note of the following items while reading. Key **events and developments** involving any of the following can be placed in the timeline.

Economics	Politics	Religion	Culture	Science
Mode of food production, agricultural techniques, crops, animals, trade goods, luxuries, industries, trade relationships, economic policies, infrastructure works, social issues	Founders, notable figures, social classes, wars, rebellions, government policies, military policies, dynasties, empires, kingdoms, competitors, rivals, political events	Key figures, sacred texts, shrines, monuments, philosophical movements, schools of thought, trends, beliefs, debates	Art forms, movements, literature, sculptures, poems, songs, novels, exchange with other civilizations	Discoveries, inventions, environmental issues, technologies, machines, disciplines, exchange with other civilizations

It is completely normal for these five fields to overlap. Take note of when and how they interact with one another, but pay close attention to the distinct achievements in each of the five fields.

A list of key events compiled **by partners** must be submitted to me by August 29. On one whole bond paper, list the key events you’ve added to the **ONLINE CIVILIZATION TIMELINE**. The group’s score for the LT will be 50% the average of the five pairs plus 50% the quality of the entire class’s final timeline.

WORKING WITH THE 'ONLINE CIVILIZATION TIMELINE'

1. We will be using Google Docs for our online open source spreadsheet editing. You can edit this document anywhere you are as long as you've been authorized to do so.
2. During the first two weeks of August, the class will spend one session at the library in order for me to provide you with permissions to edit the file. **Make sure you have an e-mail address.**
3. In the last week of August, the entire class will be given time to work at the library to finalize the timelines. Documents will be published (meaning no further editing) on 1pm of August 29.
4. The program we're using is a simplified spreadsheet editor. It is very similar to Microsoft Excel except that it has fewer cosmetic features. The basic functions are all there.

The screenshot shows a Google Docs spreadsheet interface. The title bar reads "Camia Timeline for 'Asia at the Centre...'". The spreadsheet has a header row with columns: ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, RELIGIOUS, CULTURAL, and SCIENCE. The rows are numbered 1 to 13. Row 1 contains the title "TIMELINE OF CHINESE, INDIAN AND ISLAMIC CIVILIZATION". Row 2 contains "PRESENTED BY II-CAMIA '11". Row 4 contains "5000BCE" in the first column. Row 13 contains "4000BCE" in the first column. The spreadsheet is currently empty of data entries.

	ECONOMIC	POLITICAL	RELIGIOUS	CULTURAL	SCIENCE
1	TIMELINE OF CHINESE, INDIAN AND ISLAMIC CIVILIZATION				
2	PRESENTED BY II-CAMIA '11				
3					
4	5000BCE				
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					
11					
12					
13	4000BCE				

5. Please take note of the following guidelines while editing:
 - a. If you need to add a row, simply RIGHT CLICK on the leftmost numbered column (the "Y-axis") and click either "Insert 1 Above" or "Insert 1 Below". *There should be no need to add columns.*
 - b. One statement, one box. (Example of a statement – **539BCE: Persia conquers Mesopotamia**)
 - c. Keep your statements (including the date) under ten words.
 - d. Put the events in the correct order. You are allowed to move around and edit the work of others. Just don't delete anything that isn't yours. (Be careful. I can track the changes you make.)
 - e. Once you're done, don't forget to click "Save & Close" on the upper right hand corner. *There should be no need to save the file to a different file name. All other copies made of the class's file will be deleted.*
 - f. You may insert pictures into the cells. Keep the width of your images at 150px or below.
6. Once the document is finished, it will be published in PDF format for individual download and viewing. The content of the timeline will be integral for the position paper, the synthesis lecture in September, and the 2nd Quarter Periodic Exam.